Motions 122 and 123.

The following motions were not moved

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI :

122. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 76,653 for Central Prison by Rs. 100.

MR. M. N. PILLAI:

123. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 76,653 for Central Prison by Rs. 100.

PRESIDENT : I now put to the vote of the House, Demand X - Central Prison, for Rs. '87 lakh *minus* Rs. 300. I take it that the House sanctions the demand.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XI - POLICE.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 5·55 lakhs under Demand XI Police.

Motions 124 to 126.

The following motions were not made:

MR. G. RAMAN MENON :

124. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,582 under Establishment by Rs 480.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON :

125. To reduce the allotment of Rs 1,800 for upkeep of motor car by Rs. 300.

The following motion was not made, the member being absent :

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI :

126. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,928 for Assistant Superintendents' clerks by Rs. 1,464.

Motion 127.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Sir, I beg to make the following motion:

127. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,13,723 for Establishment under Inspectors' Offices by Rs. 7,238.

Sir, I move this motion for two reasons; one is, it is not right to ask the whole State to pay for the protection of Trivandrum alone, and the other reason is, it is not necessary. If it is right, there is no meaning in local self-government. The citizens within the municipality must find money for themselves to meet expenses pretaining to them exclusively. The Trivandrum Municipality has been treated with partiality; and it is not proper. Though the citizens of the town do not want him, a paid official President is saddled upon them by Government. That means an expense of a respectable sum from the general Treasury. There are hospitals benefiting mostly the townsmen and they are maintained at a great cost by the Government at the expense of the general taxpayer. Even the elementary responsibilities of the municipality are taken over by the Government as in the matter of lighting and maintenance of roads—why, all work except sweeping and scavenging. In addition to this, the mofusilites

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are not allowed to enter the town without payment of toll to the municipality, while the P. W. D. spends a huge sum for the roads in the town. Sir, this is taxing the general taxpayer twice—

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know from Mr. Sivatanu Pillai whether any municipality in Travancore is responsible for police administration?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I object to this allotment inasmuch as it is intended exclusively for the Trivandrum town.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): Suppose an allotment is made for maintaining an additional Police force in Tovala or Agastisvaram, will the member allow that?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Certainly not. I will object to any such allotment because it is unnecessary. I do not want to make use of any emolument for the exclusive use of my own constituency.

Sir, this way of taxing the general taxpayer, for the sake of the Trivandrum town, is taxing them double, one indirect by spending money from the general exchequer for the benefit of this town and the other direct. I ask, Sir, is it equitable? If not, is it justifiable? The members who are townsmen and who represent the mofussil may not support this motion. But, I may say it is up to them to support this motion in the interests of their constituency.

Secondly, this addition is not necessary. There are the reserve men to fall back upon. There is not proper control over the constables. They are always seen by the side of motor stands, some in uniform and others in mufti, which apparently creates the impression that they have not sufficient work to do. At any rate, it is so in Nagercoil in my own constituency.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): We are talking about the town of Trivandrum.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I am talking of the general insufficiency of work turned out by the Police force, as a whole.

PRESIDENT: But, it is not strictly relevant.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I say, as at present, there is no necessity for increasing the police force.

PRESIDENT: Where? In Trivandrum or the State as a whole?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I was just pointing out that, in the instance that I gave, the work turned out by the Police force was not sufficient.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Is it Mr. Sivatanu Pillai's suggestion, Sir, that, in view of the fact that the Police force in Nagercoil have not sufficient work to do, a few hands may be transferred from Nagercoil to Trivandrum? (*Laughter.*)

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I do not propose that at all.

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MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*) : I rise to a point of order. The work of the Police force at Nagercoil is not at all relevant to the motion.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovalla*) : I am just trying to point out that this addition to the Police force is not necessary.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*) : Does he mean the addition to the Police force of Trivandrum ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : No; for the whole State.

PRESIDENT : Your motion is for the reduction of a particular item. You cannot discuss questions of policy and matters of general application, or what happens elsewhere in connection with this item.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : I am just trying to point out that there is no necessity for any addition to the Police force.

PRESIDENT : Mr. Sivatanu Pillai, you may try to convince the House that five Head Constables and fifty Constables are not required in Trivandrum and Trivandrum alone.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : There is another reason for my raising this objection to this allotment. In view of the prospect of the pay of these poor Constables being increased shortly,—

PRESIDENT : How does that relate to the necessity for Constables in Trivandrum? (*Laughter*).

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovula*): The present allotment is intended exclusively for the protection of the Trivandrum town alone. I, as a representative of a general rural constituency, bring forward this motion for reduction.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*) : Sir, I support the motion; but I do so from another point of view. This sum seems to have been allotted for increasing the strength of the Trivandrum town Police by five Head Constables and fifty Constables. In this connection, I would at once state that it is not only the Trivandrum town, but the mofussil towns, *pakuthies* and villages that are also under-policed. The demand for increasing the efficiency of the Police is greater in mofussil parts than in towns like Trivandrum, where we have the Military.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): Sir, is it not a question of policy that he is now speaking of?

PRESIDENT: Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai, you should confine yourself to the particular item.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I am speaking of the particular item; because, I say, the whole State is under-policed. It is not the Trivandrum town alone.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Why not we begin with Trivandrum?

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*) : Sir, it is very doubtful whether the method suggested, *viz.*, that of increasing the number of Constables and Head Constables, is the best method, under the present circumstances, for making the Police more efficient. The Constables and

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Head Constables are under-paid at present. It was admitted by many on this side of the House during the discussion on the budget, and it is also a matter of common knowledge that the Police Department gives greater opportunity for corruption than any other department.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, that again is a question of general policy.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I think the proposed addition is an addition to the whole Police force also.

I doubt very much, Sir, whether there will be any improvement by increasing the number alone. The pay that is at present given to the Constables is so low that recruitment to the Police force is possible only from the lowest strata of society, and, as soon as they get into the department—

PRESIDENT: You are going outside your province again.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): My point is that the proposed addition is not an addition to the Trivandrum Police force alone. It is an addition for the whole State. Of course, Mr. Pitt adds some new hands to the present Police force of the State and proposes to post some of them in the town of Trivandrum. I am against any addition to the Police force.

PRESIDENT: Are you *against* or *for* ?

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I am against the addition.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): May I ask Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai whether he did not say that the whole State is under-policed and that as such we want more men?

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agatsisvaram*): I am coming to that. If the members will patiently listen to my arguments,—

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): If he is really of opinion that the State, as a whole, is under-policed, then, how can he argue *against* the addition ?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): The motion is for the reduction of a particular allotment ; but Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai is discussing a question of general policy. I submit it is out of order.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): My view is that the Commissioner of Police wants to add some more hands to the present Police force of the whole State although he may depute the new hands for the protection of the Trivandrum town.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know from Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai whether the Trivandrum Police force is under-manned or over-manned?

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I have admitted that, as a whole —

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MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I am speaking of Trivandrum, Sir.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I admit that, in the whole State,—

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I want to know only whether the Trivandrum Police force is under-manned or not.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I do not think there is a separate Police force for the Trivandrum town.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): There is; we have got a fixed number for Trivandrum.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I deny it (*Laughter*).

PRESIDENT: Am I to understand, or is the House to understand the member to mean that Trivandrum does not need any addition to its Police force?

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I think, Sir, greater efficiency of the Police is required and not a larger number of men.

PRESIDENT: But you have got to speak of Trivandrum.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): Yes; I say for Trivandrum as well as outside.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): May I know whether the opinion which the member has about the other parts of Travancore is also on the same footing as of Trivandrum?

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I should think so; that is the point that I am arguing.

I should like to know if the Chair has ruled me out of order.

PRESIDENT: I have not ruled you out of order. But you cannot speak except on the requirements of Trivandrum.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I admit the requirements of the town of Trivandrum, not for increasing its Police force, but for making it more efficient; and I am going to suggest other means of increasing the efficiency. So I am supporting the motion.

PRESIDENT: I have not been able to follow your line of argument.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I point out to Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai that he can speak on all these questions when we come to motion No. 128, which proposes the reduction of the total grant for Police.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvarm*): Is it not an identical motion?

PRESIDENT: No; this is for a specific reduction of the proposed addition for the Trivandrum Police force, but the other motion proposes a reduction in the total grant.

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MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*); I was under the impression that the two are identical. If the President will permit me, I shall withdraw all that I have said in connection with this motion.

PRESIDENT: I thought there was some misapprehension.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): I shall take my opportunity when the next motion is discussed.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, I am really sorry that I have to oppose a motion which has been made by a member from this side of the house; but as I know the conditions in Trivandrum much better than people from the mofussil, I have to do so. There is ample justification for the position that I am taking up. It may be that the Police is a necessary evil; but I am sure no man who is interested in peace and order can be against maintaining an honest and efficient Police force. Those who have seen or heard of large towns will be able to realise that the civic life is regulated by the Police. The condition of a town where motor cars, horses, bullock-carts and cycles pass and repass every minute in large numbers can be better imagined than described, if there is no efficient police to regulate traffic. The policeman's hand is a more forcible command than a Magistrate's order. I have heard that, in cities like London, the policeman is the common helper of all. Necessarily, he is the enemy of the drunkard and the budmash. Without him, honest men cannot get on. The number of people that come to large towns like Trivandrum is very large. In a district centre, it may be possible to find out the identity of persons with more ease than in the capital city. It cannot be denied that there is a large floating population of criminals and law-breakers in Trivandrum. The number of house-breakings, thefts and affrays is increasing. The capital city gives occasion to numerous sightseers and others during public festivals like *Arat, Pooja-eduppu,* etc. It does require a good number of well-paid policemen to grapple with the situation.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): Are there not the Reserve Police here in Trivandrum for such purposes?

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): They are not sufficient for the town of Trivandrum.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil*): Will the member be pleased to say what will be the number of policemen in Trivandrum?

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): That must be ascertained from the Commissioner of Police when he speaks.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil*): Since the member was supporting the motion, on the ground that Trivandrum requires a greater number of policemen than at present, I thought he would enlighten me as to what is the number of policemen in Trivandrum at present.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I am not sure of the exact number.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Is the Trivandrum Police force under-manned?

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MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : It is under-manned, that is my impression. Being in Trivandrum, the member himself ought to know that.

Mr. Sivatanu Pillai cannot have failed to notice the Trivandrum policemen standing in all important turnings and regulating traffic with due diligence.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I point out that the Nagercoil policemen also are standing in almost the same manner?

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : I know only what takes place in Trivandrum. My complaint is that the force is not enough. There is not enough of night patrol. I would suggest that, in every important junction, there must be a constable keeping watch in turn, throughout, so that he may be of help to the people if need be. I daresay that my friends, Messrs. Sivatanu Pillai and Subrahmanya Pillai come and stay with an easy heart because of their belief that life and property are safe here. With the advent of the railway and the increase in motor traffic the chances for crimes have become greater than they used to be. Prevention is surely better than cure. I agree with my friends in saying that the pay of the constables should be increased; but, if the means of effecting it is by reducing the force, every citizen will and ought to come forward to oppose the suggestion.

Sir, when people become saintly and crimes are scarce, you may reduce the number of constables; but, I fear such a state of affairs may not come to pass at any near date. The safety of Trivandrum means the safety of the whole country. I should congratulate the head of the department on his having made a wise and necessary proposal in the interests of public safety and convenience.

I thought the men asked for are all for the town of Trivandrum. Now, I understand that about twenty out of the fifty men are for Kottayam. We want night patrols and proper regulation of traffic in Trivandrum. So, I request the Commissioner of Police to post all the fifty men in this town itself. With these words, I oppose the motion.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*) : Sir, I think I had better explain at once that, after the budget was drawn up, Government decided that, of the addition of 5 Head Constables and 50 Constables about which we are now talking, only 3 Head constables and 30 Constables should be allotted to Trivandrum town. There was an earlier proposal of mine to add 30 Constables to Kottayam District; and now that District is to be strengthened by an addition of 2 Head Constables and 20 Constables. I am sorry that it was not possible for me to make this explanation earlier.

From 1st Chingam 1098, in connection with the re-organisation, there was a reduction in the constabulary of 4 Head Constables and 131 Constables. They were taken from all the Districts; but the biggest reduction was made in the Kottayam District. Some time ago, when

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I inspected the Kottayam District, I examined the work done in each station and I came to the conclusion that 31 constables more were required for that District and I asked Government sanction for the same. While this proposal with regard to Kottayam was under consideration, a further proposal with regard to Trivandrum town was made, and Trivandrum town got preference as Mr. Sivatanu Pillai would say.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from Mr. Pitt the number of Police constables now engaged in the town of Trivandrum as a whole?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Well I have got the figure here; but I have to look it up. It is approximately 200. That includes the Hackney Carriage section and the Palace guard.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Does it include the Reserve Police also?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): No, in the Reserve, there are only, on a daily average, 4 Head Constables and 14 Constables for general duty and the others are on fixed duty. As the House knows very well, 4 Head Constables and 40 Constables have had to be in Vaikam for a year past. Ever since I have been here, there has seldom been a handful of men available for work——

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know whether they are available only for Trivandrum?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): No, they are available for use all over Travancore. They are at present being used in the Kottayam District.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Are not some of them at Vaikam?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Yes, some are at Vaikam and some are at Kottayam.

With regard to the requirements of Trivandrum town, I drew up myself a list and I came to the conclusion that, in order to have constables for every corner which might be considered as dangerous from the point of view of traffic, it would require an additional strength of 101 constables. What I have asked for is only half—

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then why does the Commissioner send 20 of the men to Kottayam?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): We cannot have the whole number here and that is fairly clear. The requirements of the Kottayam District are just as great as of Trivandrum town.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know why the Kottayam Division also was not mentioned in the allotment itself?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Since the budget was printed, Government looked up my earlier proposal and they have decided that the Kottayam District should have a share in this proposal. So

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no separate provision has been made for Kottayam District and we propose to give, out of this number, 2 Head Constables and 20 Constables to Kottayam District.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): May I know the number of constables reduced during the re-organisation?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commisioner of Police*): One hundred and thirty one.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*): In the Kottayam District?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Fifty-one. I think it is only fair that Kottayam should get 2 Head Constables and 20 constables; and I hope the House will accept my proposal.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): May I know from Mr. Pitt, taking into consideration the traffic at Kottayam, whether 20 constables will be enough?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): As the provision is not made separately, Kottayam can only hope for a share of this fifty and nothing else.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I find from the Report of the Police Department for 1099, that one Head Constable and seven constables are employed permanently for the Vaikam temple. May I know whether they are required now?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): They have nothing to do with the *Satyagraha*. But they have to guard the temple Treasury.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know why they were required for 1099 and not before?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I assure Mr. Changanachery Paramesvaran Pillai that they have nothing whatever to do with *Satyagraha* (*laughter*). They are guarding the treasury and are not allowed to go and see the *Satyagraha* (*laughter*). Moreover, the Devaswom Department pays for the same.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): What percentage does the Police force bear to the population in Travancore?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Somewhere about one to two thousand.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Sir, in supporting Mr. Pitt's motion, I would impress upon the House.....

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): It is the motion of Mr. Sivatanu Pillai.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Yes, in opposing Mr. Sivatanu Pillai's motion and supporting Mr. Pitt, I would impress upon Mr. Pitt the desirability of having not less than 50 men posted at Trivandrum because, according to his own statement, one hundred are necessary. People who use motor cars feel almost every time and every hour that a policeman is not standing at the place where he is expected to stand. It is because the Police force is undermanned,

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[Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.]

There are very many dangerous junctions in the town and I believe it is highly desirable that there should be a police constable always on duty there to direct traffic. I am not at one with Mr. Sivatanu Pillai in thinking that it is not right to call the whole State to pay for the protection of Trivandrum. All the taluks are represented in this very House consisting as it does of the representatives of the taluks. So the whole State is here and I do not see how any partiality is shown to the capital of this State. Unfortunately, it is in the case of all towns; the number of the motor cars used here is much greater. If the number is not enough, I daresay Mr. Pitt will find his way to move for a supplementary grant, instead of taking away 20 men and posting them at Kottayam.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I beg to support the demand of Mr. Pitt. In doing so, I would urge upon the attention of the Commissioner that the traffic in Kottayam town is not in any way less than that of Trivandrum. So I hope that in the next Council Mr. Pitt will ask for a supplementary grant for 20 men for regulation of traffic at Kottayam.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, inasmuch as Mr. Pitt, the Police Commissioner, has assured that this additional force of 5 Head Constables and 50 Constables is not exclusively intended for the Trivandrum town, I have no objection whatsoever to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion 128.

The following motion was not moved:—

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI:—

127. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,13,728 for establishment under Inspectors' Offices by Rs. 7,238.

Motion 129.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

129. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,88,664 for District Police by Re. 1.

The object of my motion is to draw the attention of Government to three specific matters. One is the bad principle that underlies the arrangement by which the under-trial prisoners are handed over to the Police. The second is the bad condition that obtains in the lock-ups and the third is the unsatisfactory arrangement by which the convicts who undergo imprisonment for a period not more than a month are kept in lock-ups. Sir, instances are not few or far between where the under-trial prisoners who have made certain confessions before Magistrates' Courts have said a different thing when they are taken before a Judge. I do not make any allegation against any District authorities; but very often the impression is that the confessions are extracted from them by torture, and that is the reason why they give certain statements before the Magistrate and reverse them before the Sessions Judge.

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Whether there is any truth in that belief or not, I would very humbly suggest that this arrangement by which the under-trial prisoners are handed over to the Police who are expected to bring in evidence about them about a particular crime is wrong in principle. When people are suspected and taken under custody by the Police, their lot is at the mercy of the Police. One cannot blame them if miscarriage of justice is expected in that particular case and people who are here need not be reminded about this because almost every day we come across such instances.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*) : Does the member know the system prevailing in Cochin and British India ?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : I am sorry I do not know. As to the bad condition of the lock-ups, I must confess I have no personal experience about them. But the fact is that, when convicts are sent out from there to the Central Jail, we cannot recognise them as human beings. They have dirty clothes and grown up beards and look completely different. There is absolutely no provision for changing their clothes, for bath, for proper feeding, &c. The other day I was told that the Police Department is not so much responsible for that as the Judicial Department. Since these under-trial prisoners are in their custody, I hope the Police Department will make some provision for bath which is necessary for human beings. There is no reason why these convicts should be kept in lock-ups where there is no moral instruction, mental cure or physical exercise and where the rooms are ill-ventilated. If we keep them even for one day, they are absolutely unfit and so they go back to their stealing profession to come back to the Jail. Since we have a costly prison like the Central Prison, people may be sent there for custody.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Sir, I oppose this motion. I think it is a great pity that Mr. A. K. Pillai has not seen some of the lock-ups. They are not so bad as he makes out. The first objection he raised was to the effect that jails and lock-ups are practically one and the same thing. Well, my department has been trying, for some years, to get rid of this nuisance (I think I may call it so) of having to guard and look after these remanded and short-term prisoners, and draft rules have already been drawn up and, I believe, they are being considered by Government. It is proposed to have separate sub-jails ; and when this is done, the prisoners will be guarded by the same gentle warders that Mr. A. K. Pillai found in the Central Jail. I believe he will have no further objection then. I must admit that the condition of the prisoners in these lock-ups is not as it should be. It is certainly true that they get to look like wild animals because there is no provision for getting their hair cut. As for baths, they can have one a day. For the last two years, each week the local Medical Officer is bound to examine every cell and every prisoner and the result of his inspection is to be recorded in a visitors' book which is kept in every station. A copy of such notes is sent to me week by week. If medical officers do make such remarks as 'prisoners are dirty and so on,' these

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are attended to. As far as possible, the lock-ups are kept clean. The condition of the prisoners has improved since the examination by medical officers.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Will Mr. Pitt tell the House if there are windows for these lock-ups?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I do not know what he means by a window? If he means a ventilator, then these lock-ups have it.

PRESIDENT: I think "ventilator" is only Latin for "window".

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Prisoners may get out of the jail if the window is low down. So the ventilators are placed high in the wall.

MR. A K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): The prisoners for short terms are kept in these lock-ups, say for one month and more?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Does he enquire whether I consider the ventilation of these cells is sufficient?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Yes.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I shall explain that. Some time back, I wrote to the Darbar Physician to kindly send a Medical Officer to inspect all the cells and I specially mentioned to him the question of light and air.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Will Mr. Pitt give some information about the dimensions of an average lock-up?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I do not know whether there are any two lock-ups in Travancore that are of the same size.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Average lock-up?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Some of them are large, while others are small.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Can he give some idea of the space that is allowed to an individual prisoner?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Some lock-ups are airy, while others are not. The Medical Officer sent by the Darbar Physician gave an idea as to how many prisoners should be locked up in one lock-up. As a result of his recommendations, provision has been made in the budget estimate of this year under "P. W. D.—New Works" for improving three lock-ups in three stations in Trivandrum. The medical officer only found one other station in which something should be done that is the Kottarakara station. I have looked in the budget to see whether any provision is made with regard to that; but there is no provision. With regard to all other lock-ups, provision has been made this year for bringing them up to the standard that the Medical Officers considered necessary.

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MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): What is his opinion about the handing over of suspects to the Police?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I know nothing of that. I never heard of that being done.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I am talking of the case of under-trial prisoners who are suspected of crimes.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I may just say that nobody is more anxious than Police officers to be relieved of guarding the prisoners. It has been proposed at the instance of this department to provide separate sub-jails. The draft rules have been drawn up by the Head Sirkar Vakil and in it there is a Section which says that separate buildings are necessary. This was done at the instance of this department. It will take some time as sub-jails have to be built. When they are built, this can be given effect to. I believe that Government have already decided that point.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Will there be a sub-jail in place of every lock-up?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): There will be sub-jails attached to the courts.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): How long is it since these rules were drafted?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I cannot say that offhand.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): May I know when they will come into force?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I do not know; I believe Mr. Subba Aiyer will probably speak on the subject.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Will the bringing into force of these rules be expedited?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*). Yes, they will be expedited.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): What is the difference between the sub-jails and lock-ups?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I will pass on to the member my copy of the draft rules.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Are these rules not in force now? If they are not, have the Government any objection in publishing them?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): That question will be considered.

There is one other point that I want to mention in this connection. I deny all responsibility for supplying bedding and clothes to the under-trial prisoners and short-term convicts. That is the duty of the Courts and provision is made under Administration of Justice. All that this department has to do is to guard the prisoners and provide them with convenience for bathing. I oppose the motion.

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MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Sir, with regard to the Sub-Jail Rules which Mr. Pitt referred to, I believe, I am the only person here who knows something about it. These rules were drafted about 4 or 5 years ago with the idea of having sub-jails in the various parts of the State under a Superintendent and a Medical Officer to supervise them under the Police Department. Those rules were circulated to the various District Magistrates to express their opinion. I believe it was awaiting discussion at a conference in which the Dewan, the Police Commissioner, the Chief Justice and the Head Sirkar Vakil were to take part. Owing to some reason or other, the Chief Justice was not able to take part in it and it was postponed from time to time. Mr. Pitt, I trust, will see that these rules are passed at an early date; and then probably most of the objections that are now raised would be remedied. The real matter then would be to find out the necessary funds; but that, I daresay, the House will not be unwilling to sanction, if necessary.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): The object of Mr. A. K. Pillai in bringing forward this motion is to draw the attention of the House to the difficulties experienced by the under-trial prisoners and those in the lock-ups. He also referred to the *Satyagraha* prisoners in the lock-ups.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I did not.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): That was what I understood. The difficulty arises from want of proper hearing.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): We want a new Hall.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): With regard to the *Satyagraha* prisoners, I happened to visit one of them when I was at Kottayam and I was satisfied that he was properly looked after.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Does the member know the *Satyagraha* prisoners are treated differently from ordinary prisoners?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Yes. Subsequently, I happened to visit him and I found difference in the treatment. I understood there was some reference to Government about this and something was done.

As regards the lock-ups, I happened to inspect one of the lock-ups at Kottayam. Whatever the Medical Officer might have reported about that, my own opinion is that it was not sufficiently ventilated. There were 13 prisoners there. And there is only one door and part of it is covered by iron bars. Apart from that, there is no ventilation there. It may not be difficult for a man to live in that. But still under ordinary circumstances, nobody would find it convenient to be there for a sufficiently long period. I am just making this observation to bring to the notice of the House that the condition of the lock-ups deserves looking into. With these observations, I support Mr. A. K. Pillai.

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MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : My objection still remains with regard to the more serious point, namely, the system of handing over the suspects and the under-trial prisoners to officers who are in charge of the particular crime. If Government assures me that they are contemplating a system by which these under-trial prisoners and suspects would be accommodated in a different place under a different management and superintendence, then I have no objection in withdrawing the motion.

Sir, I have also to make one personal request to the Dewan of Travancore that, when he goes out to visit lock-ups, he may see if the conditions are satisfactory.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*) : I have already said that certain draft rules are under the consideration of the Government, and I believe the Government is committed to the policy of building separate sub-jails ; and I trust when the Dewan of Travancore goes on tour, he will inspect these lock-ups and see whether what I said here about them is true or not.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion 130.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): I beg to move the following motion.—

130. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,88,664 for District Police by Rs. 100.

ഇതിൽ എനിക്കുപറയാനുള്ളതു മോട്ടാർബസ്സിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചു ഗവർൺമെൻറിൽ നിന്നും പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തീട്ടുള്ള ഒരു നോട്ടിഫിക്കേഷനെപ്പറ്റിയാണു്. അതിൽ ഇങ്ങനെയാണ്പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു്:—

"It is hereby notified for general information that, in the exercise of the powers conferred by Section 12 of the Travancore Motor Vehicles Regulation, VI of 1094, Government resolve to enforce the following restrictions in regard to the use of motor vehicles with effect from the date and on the roads particularised below:—

(1) No motor bus shall be run in any place in the State from 1st Chingam 1100 at a speed exceeding 10 miles per hour ;

(2) No motor bus whose maximum capacity exceeds 24 passengers and their luggages shall be run from 1st Chingam 1100 on the following roads:—

The Main Southern road.
The Trivandrum-Quilon road.
The Kottarakara-Kottayam road.

ഇതാണ്നോട്ടിഫിക്കേഷൻ. ഇതിൽ എനിക്കാദ്യമായി പറയാനുള്ളതു സ്പീഡിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചാണ്. ഈ മോട്ടാർ ബസ്സ് യാത്രയ്ക്കു വലുതായ പ്രയോജനമുള്ളതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകമായി പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ഇവിടെ ബസ്സാണു് ആദ്യമായി ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അതിനുമുമ്പു കൊടുത്തിരുന്ന സ്പീഡിനെ കുറക്കയും എയിറ്റ്സീറ്റർസിനു

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[Mr. T. Kumara Pillai.]

ഫ ഒ മയിൽ സ്പീഡാക്കികൊടുക്കയും ചെയ്യുതിലാണ് എനിക്ക അഭിപ്രാ യവ്യത്യാസമുള്ളത്. ഈ സ്ഥിതിയിൽ മോട്ടാർ ബസ്സുകൾ അടുത്തകാ ലത്തുതന്നെ നിന്നുപോകുന്നതാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ രണ്ടു വാഹനങ്ങ ൾക്കും ഒരുപോലെ സൌകര്യം കിട്ടത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഒരുപോലെ സ്പീഡുക ൾ അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണ എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know from the member why the *tapal vandy* was stopped?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): I do not wish to answer that question.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Was it on account of low speed or high speed?

ബസ്സിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു മനസ്സമാധാനത്തോടുകൂടി സഞ്ചരിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കും. എയിറ്റ്സീററിൽ മിക്കവാറും ആപത്തുകൾ വരുന്നുണ്ട്. പോലീസ്കമ്മിഷണർ ഫ ഒ മയിലിനു ലൈസൻസ് കൊടുത്താലും അവ ർ വിടുന്നതു ഫ വ മൈൽ ൨ ൦ മൈൽ വേഗത്തിലാണ്. അതിനാൽ പല ആപത്തുകളും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ട്. അതു പോലീസ്കമ്മീഷണർക്കു ത ന്നെ പല അവസരങ്ങളിലും അറിയാനിടയായിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ടു അതുകളുടെ സ്പീഡിനെ അനുരൂപമായവിധം ആക്കിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നാ ണ എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

രണ്ടാമതു എനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ളത് ൨൫ യാത്രക്കാരിൽ അ ധികം ബസ്സിൽ കയറിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകാൻ പാടില്ല എന്നുള്ളതിനെ പറ്റിയാണ്. അങ്ങനെ ഒരേപ്പാട്ട ഗവർണ്മെൻറു ചെയ്യുന്നപക്ഷം അ ത് തിരുവിതാംകൂർ സംസ്ഥാനത്തുള്ള എല്ലാ റോഡുകളേയും ബാധിക്കേ ണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. എം. സി. റോഡും, തിരുവനന്തപുരം-കൊല്ലം റോഡും, കൊട്ടാരക്കര-കോട്ടയം റോഡും മാത്രമെ ഇതിൽ ബാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളൂ. കോട്ട യം-മുണ്ടക്കയംറോഡു ഇതിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ—

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I rise to a point of order. The speed limit was fixed by Government in the Engineering Department. It has nothing to do with my department.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): I think I can speak about this subject under the head District Police. The Traffic Inspector is under the District Police.

PRESIDENT: He may say that the order is carried out by the Police but the orders are given by the Public Works Department.

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MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Both the departments are giving orders.

PRESIDENT: No; the one gives the order and the other carries it out.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): My difficulty was where I am to include this motion.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): It may come under the Public Works Department.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): I think last time a motion of this kind was included in the District Police.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I do not think so.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): I have no objection to speak about it under P. W. D.

PRESIDENT: Was not the notification sent from the Police Department?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): The Dewan sent me a notification and asked whether I thought it was alright. I said there was no change necessary and sent it back.

PRESIDENT: I think in most other countries the speed limit is not enforced. I think there is no speed limit in France.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): There is no speed limit in France and there is a proposal to withdraw it in England. It is more likely that they will allow a higher speed.

PRESIDENT: I fear it is not done in England yet.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഒരു യാത്രക്കാരിൽ കൂടുതലായി ആളുകളെ കയറാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള ഏർപ്പാട് ഡിസ്ട്രിക്റ്റ് പോലീസുകാരുടെയാണ്.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commisssioner of Police*): The order was passed in the Engineering Department.

PRESIDENT: I think the member had better wait till the P. W. Budget comes up.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): I have no objection to wait. ഒരു ആളുകളെ കയറി കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതു കണ്ടു കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ കേസുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു പോലീസുകാരാണ്.

MR. K. V. NATESA AIYAR (*Chief Engineer*): Am I to explain the matter?

PRESIDENT: You cannot do it now. You may do it after Mr. Kumara Pillai sits down.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Am I to reserve it till the P. W. Budget comes up?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): The whole motion is out of order. In any case it cannot come under District Police.

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[Mr. W. H. Pitt.]

The District Police have nothing to do with it. In point of fact, this particular notification was passed by the Government in the Engineering Department without any consultation whatsoever with the Police. It is true that the notification is worked by the police now, as nearly all Regulations in Travancore are worked by them.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): I wanted simply to bring this before the notice of Government. I do not want to press it. I did not know whether it was to be included under Police or P. W. D. That was the difficulty.

PRESIDENT: But in a way you have brought it to the notice of the Council and therefore it cannot escape attention, Mr. Kumara Pillai.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): So, may I proceed with it when the P. W. Demand comes in or may I finish it now?

PRESIDENT: Strictly, you would be out of order if you finish it now.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Then I shall not move it now, but I shall move it when the P. W. D. Demand comes up.

PRESIDENT: It cannot be transferred. You can withdraw it now.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): It is not my fault, Sir, because, as the police were controlling the traffic, I thought I could move it now. If one man is added in the bus, the police are the people who start the prosecution.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Ag. Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Having regard to the circumstances, the President may allow him to send a separate notice requesting the President to excuse the delay.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): May I suggest a solution, Sir?

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Mr. Kumara Pillai may send in a motion though there is not the required number of days and the President may admit it.

PRESIDENT: The Law Member has suggested it. Do you withdraw your motion, Mr. Kumara Pillai?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Yes, I withdraw the motion and I shall send up another motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

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Motions 131 to 133.

The following motions were not moved :—

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI :

131. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,88,164 for District Police by Rs. 100.

MR. C. P. THOMAS :

132. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5·55 lakhs under Demand XI by Rs. 100.

MR. M. N. PILLAI :

133. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5·55 lakhs under Demand XI by Rs. 100.

PRESIDENT : I now put the demand of Rs. 5,55,000 under Demand XI—Police—to the vote of the House.

The grant was made.

PRESIDENT : The House will now adjourn and meet to-morrow morning at half past eleven.

The Council adjourned at 5-39 P. M.

T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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